respondence affecting the business of the Council on "Pudukottai State Service" unpaid to the Secretary to the Legislative Council;

(b) and if the Government is not aware, whether the Government will enquire and find out the fact, and whether the Government will consider the matter of extending that privilege to the non-official Members of our Legislative Council?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—(a) No.

(b) Yes.

The rule regarding supplementary questions.

106. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform whether any steps have been taken by the Government on the representation made in the Legislative Council by the non-official Members of the Council in the budget session and in subsequent meetings of the Council that, as in the Madras Legislative Council, the Coorg Legislative Council, the Pudukottai Legislative Council and most other Legislative Councils in India, not only the Member putting a question, but any other Member of the Council desiring to put supplementary questions, should be permitted to do so by modifying our rule governing supplementary questions, and if no steps have been taken, whether steps will soon be taken to modify the present rule, and if the answer is in the negative, to give the reason for not doing so?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—No steps have been taken. The Government are not convinced that the present rule requires modification, and they do not, therefore, propose to make any alteration in it now. They will, however, watch the working of the rule for a reasonable time; and make suitable modification, if found necessary.

The absence of Members from the sittings of the Council.

107. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased

(a) to order protection of M. L. C.s as a parliamentary privilege from civil warrants, etc., during the Council sessions, as the constituencies are liable to be affected by their absence in case such orders of arrest are issued?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to order re-election of their constituency or constituencies whose member chanced to be a judgment-debtor with a warrant of arrest issued once?

(c) Regard being had to the fact that some of the Members of this Council had absented themselves from the sitting for

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more than the period stipulated by the Rules and Regulations, will the Government be pleased to go into the matter or decide whether a re-election was necessary or not ?

(d) In conformity with the Rules and Regulations, will the Government be pleased, unlike during the past year, to have the meetings of Council held as per rules within the four months of the previous meeting?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—(a) The Government consider that it is not necessary. The constituencies will be well advised in not returning representatives who are not in a position to satisfy their decree debts.

(b) The attention of the Member is invited to Rules 5 and 22 of the Electoral Rules.

(c) The Government have no information on the subject.

(d) The Member is referred to Section 9 (1) of the Council Regulation and to S. O. No. 3 (a).

The grant of tickets to visitors to the Council, and expenditure on account of reporting work.

108. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any hard and fast rule regarding the grant of tickets to the Visitors' Gallery and to the President's Gallery ;

(b) whether persons of the same status used to be given tickets to different galleries without their requests for such differential treatment;

(c) whether tickets for all the days of the session could not be granted, unlike at present, on the first application;

(d) the expenditure incurred on shorthand reporters during in the present year;

(e) whether better arrangements could not be made as in Madras at a cheaper cost than the present year?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—(a) No.

(b) No; at any rate, it has not been done consciously.

(c) It is not always possible, as the seating accommodation in the hall is limited, while applications for admission are many

(d) Rs. 840 approximately.

(e) In Madras, reporting and typing charges come to about Rs. 21,000 as against Rs. 840 of ours. The Government will, however, consider the matter.

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